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Newsletter

Number 11

4 May 2012



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. Mike Sinclair for providing advice and guidance on building matters this week .. and other weeks!

.. Those mums who went to special lengths this week to check on where their child's home reading book was - assigned work is important for the progress of many children and so well done.

.. Kaye Witte for giving up her Saturdays to help with hockey, the parents and coaches really appreciate it!

People of the week

.. those children who started After School Reading Labs this week.

This is additional work for these children and their attendance indicates a commitment to improve - well done!

.. those teachers who have put their hands up to supervise these labs - additional to regular workloads - and without pay!

.. our Bible in Schools teachers for volunteering their time to work with our students on Monday mornings.

.. School Council for organising an awesome junior disco.

Current Virtue . . **COMMITMENT**

As advised last week our virtue for the first 5 weeks of term 2 is "Commitment". If you did not receive the support material sent out with last week's newsletter please contact the school office.

So .. please support by ..

.. discussing this virtue with your child

.. tell them how this virtue has impacted positively on your life

.. identify areas where this virtue could be further practised at home

Let us know of any successes so that we can celebrate these through the school newsletter.

Coming up this term

8 / 9 May Visit by Ze Bong (Visiting dramatists / literacy workshops). Covered by activity fee.

22 May Year 7 and 8 Winter Sports Tournament

25-27 May 20 Hour Famine

29 May Year 4-6 Winter Sports Tournament

30 May HPV vaccination dose 2 (Year 8 girls)

30 May Mobile Ear Clinic outside Bush Rd Medical Centre

31 May Year 7 and 8's Rock Wall Climbing at Taurikura

5 June Board of Trustees meeting (6:00 PM)

11 June Visit by team from Education Review Office

15 June Portfolios issued to parents

20 June Visit by reps of Whangarei Girls High (year 8 girls)

25/26 June Parent / Teacher Interviews

26 June Matarau School Science Fair Prize Giving

27 June Mobile ear Clinic outside Bush Rd Medical Centre

29 June Final day of term 2

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Matarau Hockey - Sponsored by McQuinn Ground Spread

Players of the Day Saturday 28th April:



C Grade - Jacob



D Grade - Eve



E Grade - Brianna

After School Reading Labs

If your child is involved in labs please remember to ..

.. send a snack for after school

.. pick them up no later than 4:30 PM

.. let their teacher know if you would like some modifications to their homework load in lieu of this additional work.

While our intention is to wrap up by 4:30 PM this is not always easy as children are wanting to share what they have learnt and ask questions. We know things can be very busy for families and so please feel free to tap your child on the shoulder if you need to take them early - this is not a problem at all.

Reading Recovery / Mrs Marvin's Class (Room 5) / Mrs Comrie's Learning Support Programme

A final invitation to show a high level of interest if your child is involved in these programmes. Mrs Robertson, Mrs Burgin and Mrs Comrie are highly available to answer questions and report on progress.

Logic and Strategy

Shortly Mrs Comrie will be facilitating logic and strategy game sessions in the school library on designated lunchtimes. Should be an interesting alternative lunchtime activity for children and a great way to fine tune some minds. We will keep you posted and thanks Mrs Comrie.

Ze Bong - visiting dramatists

Next week the school will be visited by a professional drama group. Children will participate in a variety of activities including storytelling and a range of workshops. The average cost is \$5 per child and this will be deducted from the activity (EOTC) fee paid at the beginning of the year.

Te Reo Classes

Please talk with your child each night about their work and especially encourage them to use their new vocabulary at home. Mrs Abbott is more than happy for you to drop in on classes.

Kapa Haka

If you are keen for your child to be involved in after school Kapa Haka classes (3:00 to 4:00 PM on a Tuesday - parent pick up at 4:00 PM), and you have not received a consent, please contact Mrs Abbott next week. Mrs Abbott is still keen to hear from parents able to help with this programme - especially if able to play the guitar.

Maori Liaison Person

We are pleased to advise that Toni Pivac has been appointed to the role of Maori Liaison Person. The Maori Liaison Person provides an alternative avenue of communication between Maori families and the Board/School and advise the Board/School on cultural issues. Toni can be contacted on 4351041 or 0211737221. A special thanks to Toni for taking on this role.

Year 7 and 8 - Science Fair / Action research

By now parents should have received confirmation of their child's preferred topic. It would be really helpful if you could assist your child to gather background information on this topic - maybe a trip to the Public Library. Any questions about topics / experiments to Mrs Donaldson or Mr D please on sco.jo@xtra.co.nz Please make contact early if you sense your child is encountering difficulty or is falling behind.

Famine

Last week interested children years 6 and up received an invitation to participate in this year's 20 Hour Famine. If you would like them involved please return their consent form this coming Monday.

Headlice Inspection

Will be held next Friday 11 May 2012. Please contact Donna Cates at school if able to help out. All parents are asked to check their children's hair weekly and to take necessary action promptly in the event of infestation.

Senior Disco

The Senior disco (Yrs 5-8) will be held on Thursday 10th May, 6.30pm - 8.30pm, \$2.00 entry free and plate to share for supper. The theme is "Dress to Impress".



Request from the Library

During the coming months there will be lunchtime activities held in the library. For this we require various sized needles, wool, games and puzzles. If you can be of assistance please contact the office. Thank you very much.

Scholastic Book Club

Issue #3 sent home this week. All orders and payments to the office by Friday 18th May please.

School Contribution / Activity Fee

Payment requests were issued last week to those families who have opted for term or deferred payment. The School Contribution is optional (but appreciated) but the activity fee is compulsory please. The activity fee pays for the "add ons" like bus trips to events, visiting drama groups and so on and saves us having to ask for \$5 here and \$6 there.

If you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements please contact Kevin.

Keeping track of your activity (EOTC) fee

By and large the activity fee is calculated to cover one event or trip per term with a little over for something special. Most activity fees are around \$32 per child. Interestingly a bus trip into town costs around \$5-00 or \$6-00 per child and most drama groups (on average) charge around the same amount. Thus by year's end (if your child has attended 5 events or thereabouts) their fee will have been spent. On rare occasions we have to ask for a top up and sometimes we subsidise from other sources. (Parents have indicated to us that they much prefer to make a one off payment for the year than to dig into their pockets for smaller amounts throughout the year - it also saves valuable time for teachers and admin staff).

Netball Fees

A reminder that fees for netball are required to be paid asap. \$40 for the Year 5-6 team and \$50 for Intermediate team. Thank you to those who have paid promptly.

Beautifying the School

We are currently beautifying and replanting the gardens by the office and in front of Room 11. If you are able to donate any of the following plants they would be gratefully received.

Clivia (any colour/variety)

Ajuga

Hellebores (Greens, Purples)

Liriope Muscari (Purple/blue)



Please bring to school in a plastic bag and bring to Room 3 or the office before or by next Friday 11 May.

Finally

Some of you will remember that we surveyed children last year to see whether or not they felt valued at school. While 93% of children responded that teachers listen to their ideas and 86% said teachers help them with problems, only 58% of children said their classmates listened to their ideas and only 60% of children responded that others cared about their feelings. While the overall responses indicated a pretty caring and supportive school environment, we thought we could perhaps do further work in promoting friendships and valuing what others have to say. Some new initiatives will get under way later this term and we will keep you posted on developments.

(Results from our Learning Styles survey will be in next week's newsletter).

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support



Community Notices

For Rent – Cosy country cottage in Ruatangata. 2 bedrooms and sleepout. Available 5th May \$220pw including power, ph Jenny 4355336.

For Rent – 3 bedroom house, Matarau Rd on bus route. Available from 5th May, ph 4335814.

For Sale – 2012 Blues Jersey, never worn, size 16 \$110 or ono. Ph Jamahl 4335010.

"KidzCamp" - July School Holidays 2012 Registrations are now open. Visit www.marsdenbay.com for more details or contact Helena Lamason via email: info@marsdenbay.com."

New!!! 'The Creative Cafe' - * paint your own ceramics! * beads and jewellery design! Tuesday - Sunday from 10am at 85 Cameron St, WHANGAREI, www.thecreativecafe.co.nz

Interested in drama? Rising Starz Performing Arts Trust runs Drama Club for primary school aged children on Sundays from 12pm to 1:30pm. Term 2 begins Sunday 29th April. Production at Captaine Bougainville in November. \$50 per term. For more information contact Kerry on 021 269 2311 or Wendy 432 9218.

Whangarei Choral Society & BOI Singers performance – 2.30pm Saturday 12th May, at Christchurch, Kamo Road; see Gail Wynyard for more info.

For Sale - Free Range Eggs, \$5 per dozen, Will deliver to school. Phone Carol Welsh 433 5035.



School Lunches

Mondays - \$3.00 : Baked Beans or Spaghetti served with toast & a juice, or Chicken or Beef Cup of Noodles & a juice. Order at the office by morning tea on Monday.

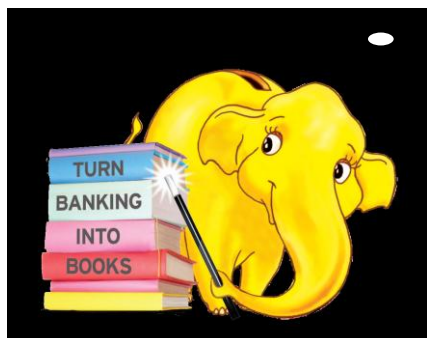
Wednesdays - \$1.50 : for Sausage in a bread with sauce. Order on Wednesday mornings through the class teacher.

Fridays - \$4.00 : Hot Mince or Mince 'n' Cheese Pie, Jumbo Sausage Roll or Sausage Roll (with Museli Bar), Wraps and a Fruit Drink. You can swap the Fruit drink for a Flavoured Milk for \$4.50. Order by Wednesday at the office, to receive Friday.



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